



## **Checkout Bag Tax Act Key Points:**

- Amend Iowa Code Section [331.301](#), subsection 6 c. (1) and Iowa Code Section [364.3](#), subsection 3 c. (1) to remove the preemptive ban on any Iowa counties and cities from taxing or banning single-use bags. See page 8 for sample language.
- The proposed Checkout Bag Tax Act modeled after legislation from the State of Illinois would implement a five-cent tax per every single-use plastic, paper, or compostable bag consumed at retailer stores in the State of Iowa.  
See pages 9-12 for sample language.
  - The proposed Checkout Bag Tax Act would raise a projected \$38 million in revenues within ten years of its passage to fund education and environmental conservation efforts in the State of Iowa through the Department of Education and the Department of Natural Resources. See pages 3 and 9-12 for specifics.
- The proposed Checkout Bag Tax Act, based on legislation with proven effectivity in cities, counties, and states across the United States as well as abroad, would effectively stymie single-use bag consumption and wastage in the State of Iowa to minimize environmental degradation. See pages 4-7 for more information.



## **Checkout Bag Tax Act Fact Sheet:**

- Over 550 million plastic bags were used in Iowa's grocery industry in 2018 alone (Danielson).
- There was an 80% increase in plastic bags from 2002 to 2017 at the Metro Waste Authority's landfill in Polk County (Kilen).
- According to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 40 tons of materials were collected from the Des Moines River in 2016, 4.3 tons of which were composed of plastic bags, along with cans, bottles, and hazardous household materials ("A River through Time").
- The City of San Jose, California reports that, just one year after implementing a tax on single-use plastic bags, bag litter reduced by 89 percent in the storm drain system, 60 percent in creeks and rivers, and 59 percent in city streets and neighborhoods (Zeitlin).
- For more information on the severity of this issue, the sources we use, and the effectivity of other cities, counties, states, and countries in combating this issue through legislation similar to that which we propose, read pages 4-7.

For tables of the following data and a breakdown of its calculations, visit the following website:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oNnS8VKg42Hm3NhhLK-\\_ewfNDIVDTRYGu1PGd5OwIig/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oNnS8VKg42Hm3NhhLK-_ewfNDIVDTRYGu1PGd5OwIig/edit?usp=sharing)

Projected 10-year revenue earnings in Iowa from the passage of the Checkout Bag Tax Act, adjusted for projected population growth and decreased bag usage, in millions of 2019 dollars

